

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07

/072 W

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R 191400Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL CALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1273

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS CALI 0082

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PORS

SUBJ: PUBLIC DISTURBANCE AT JAMUNDI IN PROTEST INCREASED

BUS FARES

AN INCREASE IN BUS FARES ON THE CALI-JAMUNDI ROUTE LAST WEEK FROM 2 PESOS FOR STUDENTS AND 2.50 PESOS FOR OTHERS TO 2.50 AND 3.30 PESOS RESPECTIVELY, LED TO A BITTER PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 18.

ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, DISTURBANCES AT JAMUNDI RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF A CHILD, SERIOUS INJURY TO SIX DEMONSTRATORS, A DOZEN ARRESTS, DESTRUCTION OF TWO TRANSUR BUSES AND INJURY TO TEN POLICEMEN. THE PRESS INDICATES 300 POLICEMEN FROM CALI AND THREE TRUCKLOADS OF SOLDIERS WERE REQUIRED TO QUELL THE DISTURBANCES. HEAVY ROCK THROWING REPORTEDLY LASTED FOR A PERIOD OF 90 MINUTES. JAMUNDI'S MAYOR IS REPORTED TO BE ATTEMPTING TO WORK OUT AN ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE WITH THE OWNERS OF THE TRANSUR BUS LINE.

COMMENT: THE CONSULATE CALLS ATTENTION AGAIN TO THE HIGHLY VOLATILE PUBLIC REACTION OCCASIONED BY ANY ATTEMPTED RISE IN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FARES AND THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES INHERENT IN ANY SIGNIFICANT GASOLINE PRICE INCREASE WHICH MIGHT RESULT IN INCREASED LOCAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FARES.

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Message Attributes

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